(4) Facilities for e-registration through internet at metros and big cities are being provided. It has been experimented on a pilot basis in Mumbai, Pune and Nagpur during the current revision w.r.t. 1-1-2004 in Maharashtra. The same would be extended in other parts of the country during the next revision w.r.t. 1-1-2005 as the qualifying date.

(5) Ordinarily applications for inclusion, deletion etc.can be submitted individually. However the Commission has been allowing filing of applications in bulk by recognized political parties, Resident Welfare Associations, Executive Officer of Gaon Sabha to facilitate enrolment of agricultural labourers, farmers, weaker sections etc.who are by and large illiterate and cannot avail the opportunity otherwise.

(b) The Election Commission has informed that it may consider use of Geographical Information System for creation of polling station area maps in urban localities and otehr related issues.

Recording of evidence through video conferencing

2042. SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to record statements/evidence of under trials through video conferencing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which it is likely to be helpful in speedy trials; and

(d) whether Government are considering use of video-corferencing in every court for speedy trial?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As per information received, several States are considering video conferencing as a measure to facilitate trial.

(b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat have enacted amendment to Section 167 (2) of the CrPC in its application to their respective States to avail video conferencing in lieu of production of the accused before the Magistrate.

(c) Introduction of video conferencing as a mode to record statements of under trials whose personal presence is dispensed with, would facilitate speedy trial. In addition, it would also minimise the risk of escape of prisoners during transit from judicial custody to courts, and optimise utilisation of escort personnel.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration of the Central Government.

Pending cases in Allahabad High Court

†2043. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the courts under the jurisdiction of Allahabad High Court and Azamgarh District Court in which cases are pending for the last 3, 5, 7 and 10 years; and

(b) the steps being taken/guidelines being issued for speedy verdict disposal of the above cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) Information is being obtained from Allahabad High Court and on receipt of the information, it will be laid on the Table of the House.

Cases pending in Courts

2044. SHRI AMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing number of the the cases pending in Supreme Court and various High Courts;

(b) the number of cases pending for the last ten years;

(c) whether Government have identified the reasons for the pendency of the cases for such a long time; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take for early disposal of the cases?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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